

IV. REMARKS

Claims 1-22 remain pending. Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 11, 16 and 20 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Tyburski et al., US Patent 3,764,978 (“Tyburski”). Claims 3-7, 10, 12-15, 17-19 and 21-22 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Tyburski in view of Ott et al., US Patent 5,754,674 (“Ott”). The specification was objected to for containing informalities. Applicant has herein amended the specification to address the informalities. Claims 4, 12, and 19 were objected to for containing informalities. Applicant has herein amended the claims 4, 12, and 19 to address the informalities. Applicant has also herein amended claims 1, 8, 16 and 20. No new matter is believed added.

Applicant does not acquiesce in the correctness of the rejections and reserves the right to present specific arguments regarding any rejected claims not specifically addressed. Further, Applicant reserves the right to pursue the full scope of the subject matter of the claims in a subsequent patent application that claims priority to the instant application.

Applicant traverses the rejections of independent claims 1, 8, 16 and 20 because the cited art fails to teach each and every claim feature as required. For example, claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, “*a position collection system for collectively storing positional data for each of a plurality of characters,*” and “*a character position synchronization system that utilizes the positional data stored for the plurality of characters to positionally synchronizing corresponding characters.*” The office action alleges that logic circuit 6 of Tyburski teaches a position collection system for collecting positional data and that signals 17 and 18 represent positional data. Applicant traverses this conclusion. Lines 17 and 18 do not contain positional information, but rather contain only the magnetic or optical character information (see, e.g., column 3, lines 46-51). Logic circuit 6 does not collect positional information, but rather is used to ensure that both

signals are released “in synchronism at lines 33 and 34.” The only information inferred is “timing” information associated with the movement of the entire document, not positional information of the individual characters on the document.

Moreover, as amended, Applicant provides for “*collectively storing positional data for each of a plurality of characters.*” The logic circuitry taught by Tyburski clearly only teaches of serially processing one character at a time. Accordingly, even if, *arguendo*, one alleges that Tyburski teaches storing positional data, which Applicant traverses, nowhere does Tyburski teach or even remotely suggest **collectively storing** positional data for each of a plurality of characters. In other words, Tyburski reads in a character using two readers, synchronizes the two signals, analyzes the two signals, and then repeats for a next character. Nowhere does Tyburski teach storing positional data for a plurality of characters. As such, there is likewise no teaching of utilizing the positional data stored for the plurality of characters to positionally synchronizing corresponding characters. Accordingly, Applicant submits that each of the independent claims 1, 8, 16 and 20 are not anticipated by Tyburski. Each of the dependent claims is believed allowable for the reasons stated above, as well as their own unique features.

Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that anything further is necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael F. Hoffman". It is written in a cursive style with a vertical line extending downwards from the end of the signature.

Michael F. Hoffman
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